We Claim:

1. An apparatus for collecting optically sorted particles comprising:

a first surface adapted to support a plurality of particles,

an optical illumination system for subjecting the particles to a moving gradient force to cause the separation of the particles from the first surface, and

a second adhesive surface for adhering the separated particles to the second surface.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the adhesive surface has a specific affinity.

3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the adhesive surface has a non-specific affinity.

4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the first surface is planar.

5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the first surface is parallel to the second surface.

6. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the first surface comprises a glass slide.

7. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the first and second surfaces define a volume therebetween.

8. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the volume includes a fluid.

9. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the fluid has an index of refraction which is between the indices of refraction of the particles.